

**First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission
Commission Meeting**

April 7, 2015, 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM
601 Texas Street, Suite 210, Fairfield, CA

Minutes

Commissioners present: Aaron Crutison (Chair), Jay Speck, Elise Crane (arrived 5:28pm), Marisela Barbosa, Erin Hannigan (arrived 5:05pm), Dan Ayala, Liz Niedziela, Jerry Huber (arrived 5:21pm), Dana Dean

First 5 Solano Staff present: Michele Harris, Megan Richards, Ciara Gonsalves, Chereilyn Ellington Hunt, Venis Boyd, and Christiana Lewis

Members of the public present: Debbi Davis (Children's Nurturing Project & Help Me Grow Solano), Alan Kerzin (Children's Network), and Stephan Betz (Health and Social Services, Deputy Director Older and Disabled Adults), Nancy Calvo and Nazlin Huerta (Health and Social Services), and Debbie Peralez (Child Start)

Chair Crutison called the meeting to order at 5:02pm.

I. Public Comment

No public comment.

II. Consent Calendar

- A. Approve the Commission Meeting Agenda for April 7, 2015
- B. Approve minutes of the March 3, 2015 Commission Meeting

Motion: Approve the March 3, 2015 Commission Meeting Agenda and approve the January 13, 2015 Commission Meeting Minutes

**Moved by Commissioner Ayala; Seconded by Commissioner Speck
Approved 5-0-1**

Yea: Commissioners Crutison, Speck, Ayala, Niedziela, and Dean

Nay: None

Abstain: Commissioner Barbosa

III. April Children's Month

Ms. Ellington reported that community partners across Solano County were working together to sponsor a host of public education and community engagement activities to honor children during the month of April.

Motion: Consider approval of Resolution #2015-01 recognizing April 2015 as "Children's Month" in Solano County

Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Speck

Approved 7-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Crutison, Speck, Barbosa, Hannigan, Ayala, Niedziela, and Dean

Nay: None

Abstain: None

IV. Committee Reports

A. Program and Community Engagement

Mr. Betz presented a data report by the Center for Youth Wellness in California on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), which are known to lead to toxic stress and poor health outcomes later in life. Vallejo City Unified School District along with other agencies instituted a community-wide approach to address trauma in schools. This approach includes screening every school-age child with the 10 question ACEs assessment.

B. Systems and Policy Committee

1. Planning for 2016 and Beyond

Ms. Harris explained that the Strategic Planning efforts would be moving fairly quickly from this point forward. The Systems and Policy Committee (SPC) recommended reframing the Indicator Report to holistically approach each priority area and instructed staff to bring a comprehensive report back to the Commission.

- a. Ms. Allio presented the collective impact common agenda that was developed by the Help Me Grow leadership team from qualitative and quantitative data. Commissioner Speck asked for clarification as to which age group of children the Help Me Grow collaborative is choosing to focus their efforts. Ms. Davis explained that the collaborative currently serves mainly young children; however as more partners come aboard the definition of "children" may expand to include children of all ages. Ms. Harris clarified that the common agenda is for the community, and the First 5 Solano Commission can evaluate areas they want support while remaining in their purview. Commissioner Hannigan advocated for the common agenda to remain focused on "all Solano County children", while First 5 Solano directly supports only those systems specific to the 0-5 population. Commissioner Dean commented that it is acceptable for the Help Me Grow team to consider the systems in place for children ages 0-18, but it is not within First 5 Solano's domain. Commissioner Huber said he views the common agenda as developing and sustaining systems for all children ages 0-18 and that it would be difficult, even impossible, to separate the 0-5 population. Commissioner Crane added that if First 5 Solano doesn't help develop systems that will carry child wellbeing past the

age of 5 years old then it will lead to wasted efforts. Chair Crutison asked the Commission and Ms. Harris if the Commission could hold a meeting specifically to address, discuss, and clarify Collective Impact and the common agenda. The Commission and Ms. Harris agreed to work with staff to schedule the meeting.

Commissioner Hannigan expressed interest in how other First 5 Commissions are approaching Collective Impact strategies. Ms. Harris explained that other First 5s are in varying stages of a similar evolution, and she and Ms. Richards will attend a state-wide systems change convening at which they will speak with their peers to glean ideas and report back to the Commission.

- b. Ms. Allio reviewed the elements of the current First 5 Solano Strategic Framework. Ms. Allio asked that the Commissioners begin to contemplate whether these elements fit the future direction of First 5 Solano.

V. Contracting Update

Ms. Richards reported the results of the 2012-2015 Program Investment Plan one-year extension savings analysis as directed by the Commission at the March meeting. As a result of individual meetings with grantee agencies on cost-savings, First 5 Solano expenditures have been reduced by \$561,441, a majority being from Solano County Health and Social Services. In addition, each agency's leaders will attend a meeting on April 9th to begin discussions regarding First 5 Solano's available resources beyond FY2015/16. Ms. Harris explained that BabyFirst Solano has agreed to explore ways to reduce funding from First 5 Solano, seek alternative funding from other sources, and maintain services over the next two years. Commissioner Huber emphasized that BabyFirst Solano is a national evidence-based fidelity model program and cannot be cut in terms of the fidelity; Health and Social Services will work diligently to find other sources of funding within the two-year goal.

VI. First 5 Futures Update

Ms. Gonsalves provided an analysis of the First 5 Futures program as directed by the Commission at the March meeting. Information provided included leveraged funds, grants applied for and awarded, business engagement activities, and policy work.. Next steps include further review of the Implementation and Fund Development Plan, securing partnerships through Collective Impact efforts, and engaging in activities happening locally and statewide that will have an effect on the early childhood system in Solano.

Commissioner Dean asked what First 5 Solano would lose if it did not expend funds on the First 5 Futures program. Ms. Gonsalves responded that she will have to bring the answer back to the Commission.

VII. Public Hearing: First 5 CA FY2013/14 Annual Report

Ms. Ellington reported the First 5 California FY2013/14 Annual Report. The Report includes overviews of the services and programs provided by the state commission and county commissions. Collaborations between First 5 California and county commissions, as well as key programmatic accomplishments, are outlined.

No comments from the public.

Motion: Consider acceptance of the First 5 California Children and Families Commission's FY2013/14 Annual Report, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 130150

Moved by Commissioner Huber; Seconded by Commissioner Ayala

Approved 8-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Crutison, Speck, Barbosa, Hannigan, Ayala, Niedziela, Huber and Dean

Nay: None

Abstain: None

VIII. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Harris invited the Commission and the public to the premiere screening of *The Raising of America* documentary on April 29th and to the EDC Breakfast on May 28th. Ms. Harris directed the Commission's attention to short YouTube video, *Is America Dreaming- Understanding Social Mobility*, about the challenges and implications of social inequality in The United States.

IX. Commissioner Remarks

None.

X. Future Agenda Items

The next Commission meeting will be held on June 2, 2015 at 5:00 PM at 601 Texas Street, Fairfield. Future agenda items include: Indicators/Gaps/Systems Report; Committee Reports; Strategic Planning

Adjourn

Commissioner Crutison adjourned the meeting at 7:23pm.

Christiana Lewis, Office Assistant III

Approved:

